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February 7, 2025  
Vol. 22, No. 3

# The Prairie News

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## BLUEBIRD HERB

### Nest boxes help bluebirds

By **JEFF LAMPE**

For The Prairie News

EDWARDS – When he started tending nest boxes nearly five decades ago, Herb Unkrich didn't have a flashy nickname. He was just Herb.



But 45 years and thousands of fledglings later, Unkrich has transformed into "Bluebird Herb," likely the most devoted eastern bluebird enthusiast you will ever meet.

Last year, the Caterpillar Inc. retiree tended to 125 bluebird houses in Peoria County and had a hand in helping 969 fledglings

graduate from the nest into nature.

Unkrich is part of the reason bluebirds are no longer considered an endangered species,

*Continued on Page 7*



Herb Unkrich of Edwards, at left, tends to 125 bluebird nesting boxes in Peoria County.

### Deck released from curfew, monitoring

By **JOHN A. BALLENTINE**

For The Prairie News

TOULON – A ruling by Stark's Circuit Court Judge James A. Mack has lifted all restrictions on Caleb A. Deck, 47, of Wyoming, that were imposed at the time of his arrest last October.

Stark County Public Defender Robert M. McBride successfully requested Deck's pre-trial release and his curfew lifted on Dec. 20. Last Friday McBride also obtained a ruling from Mack that Deck's ankle monitor be removed.

Circuit Judge Paul E. Bauer had initially ruled

that Deck should be held without bail and, if released, have a curfew of 7 p.m. to 6 a.m. while wearing an ankle monitor.

"Mr. Deck has lived in this area (Wyoming) for 10 or more years and his charges are not against people," Mack explained.

Bauer had ruled Deck was "a threat to the public" in last October's court because of an explosive device found in Deck's apartment.

Mack added, "I hope I'm making the right decision."

Deck is charged with felonies of burglary, theft, assault of a peace officer, two felony counts of a felon in possession of ammunition and multiple traffic violations. Deck told Mack that

*Continued on Page 2*



Deck

### City of Galva down \$21k in tax revenue

By **CAROL TOWNSEND**

For The Prairie News

GALVA – The City of Galva is down \$21,000 in revenues from last year due mostly to less replacement tax, according to City Administrator David Dyer.

Dyer said that the state keeps taking more and more away in the tax each year. He said the other taxes seem to be up a little.

The City Council approved to reclaim the 1% grocery tax. The council unanimously approved the tax.

Resident Dustin Williams asked about the status of the old Lord

Chevrolet buildings on Market Street that the city had purchased.

Dyer said the city hired Cameron Meyer to take down several of the buildings for \$43,000.

Dyer said they do not have to take bids since the total for demolition is under \$50,000.

The city will need to have the property platted and then appraised and can then take bids for the property. Bids must be 80% of the appraised value in order to be approved.

Police Chief Kraig Townsend reported that the police depart-

ment had received a grant for new Tasers that are starting to arrive in Galva. He also said he is getting complaints on properties that need to be cleaned up. Townsend said the police department has started making a list of properties that will receive notices.

The council wants all residents to know that the city is planning a spring cleanup and maybe a fall one again.

Second Ward Alderman Jim Hartman reported that North Center Avenue needs some attention due to potholes.

### NEW GALVA OFFICER



Pictured above (left to right) are Galva Officer Luke Queen, Police Chief Kraig Townsend and Mayor Rich Volkert. Townsend introduced Queen as Galva's newest fulltime officer at Monday night's City Council meeting. Photo by Carol A. Townsend.



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# COURT: Smith bench trial scheduled for June

Continued from Page 1

he was just hired to do construction work. Deck previously claimed he needed hernia surgery.

A March 3 trial date was set on the felony counts and a bench trial was set for Feb. 14 for the traffic charges.

In another case last Friday, William K. Skog, 19, of Nauvoo, appeared in circuit court and had his March 3 jury trial vacated with a new trial date of Aug. 4 ordered, plus a June 20 scheduling conference set. He has been incarcerated in the Henry County Jail but recently was released on GPS monitoring.

Skog is charged with two felony counts of auto theft, two felony counts of aggravated fleeing and felony resisting arrest plus seven misdemeanor counts, including

theft and traffic violations. Public Defender Robert M. McBride is his assigned attorney. McBride and Stark's State's Attorney Austin King are to be in negotiations for the next several months.

Jerid A. Smith, 45, of Toulon, formerly of Altona, appeared in Stark's Circuit Court last Friday on cases involving two counts of misdemeanor assault and a violation of an order of protection misdemeanor count filed against him. Smith asked for his GPS monitor device to be removed, but Judge Mack denied that request "because of previous cases."

Smith has a history of offenses dating back at least 24 years including prior orders of protection in 2001, 2004 and 2018 in Knox County. Also, he was charged in Knox County with a 2004 domestic

battery, 2019 domestic battery, 2019 drug possession, a 2019 felony criminal damage to government property and a 2019 felony armed violence. In Henry County he was found guilty of retail theft in 2018 and a 2017 order of protection violation.

Smith is scheduled for a March scheduling conference and a June 6 bench trial. A check of court documentation shows that Smith allegedly "on or about July 5, 2024 knowingly threatened to kill Jamie Cramer while at My Place" bar, in Bradford. Also, that Smith knowingly threw a beer can at Amy Cade, the My Place proprietor.

Smith pleaded not guilty on Jan. 5 and demanded a bench trial.

Smith has also been charged with violating an order of protection on or about Nov. 4.

# SCCI mulls over possible new housing

By JOHN A. BALLENTINE

For The Prairie News

WYOMING – The Stark Council for Continuous Improvement held its quarterly meeting Jan. 29 at the Wyoming Paramount Theater.

The focus of the meeting was coming up with a vision for adding new housing in Stark County. A new subcommittee was formed to meet bi-weekly starting on Feb. 7 in order to move toward this vision.

The subcommittee will look at lots to build new houses upon and gather the names of subcontractors and possible local investors.

The group heard that more than 800 workers are estimated to be in Stark County over the next 18 months to build solar farms.

SCCI believes the new high school, new gym, new track and other school district improve-

ments will also attract new residents and families who will require housing. New housing has been a five-year plan for SCCI.

Shelley Schwab of Apex Clean Energy presented an update concerning wind turbines. She said Stark County landowners have committed approximately 90,000 acres to the possible construction of wind turbines.

Electricity from the potential solar farms would need to connect to a power grid that feeds Chicago, while the wind tur-

bines would use an established grid.

Schwab said an estimated \$136 million in property tax revenue over 28 years could potentially increase to \$260 million, and would significantly benefit the Stark County School District, local townships and county services.

The council members also heard from the new Wyoming Chamber of Commerce President Lorie McCullough, Society of Growth's CEO Samantha McCoy, member Jon Knoblauch and Tou-

lon Mayor Larry Hollis.

McCoy said a new executive board, comprising local school, health, and government representatives, will oversee initiatives being funded by nearly \$2 million in grants. McCoy also discussed additional projects, including efforts to expand daycare services.

SCCI's Executive Board members present were Brett Elliott, Denny Rewerts, Mark Rewerts and Michael Schott. The next meeting is scheduled for April 16 at a venue to be announced.

# Illinois deer-kill totals up from 2023-24

SPRINGFIELD – Deer hunters in Illinois shot a preliminary total of 170,758 deer during all 2024-25 archery and firearm seasons, which concluded Jan. 19.

That total is up from the 160,313 deer shot in 2023-2024.

Hunters took 46.27% females and 53.72% males.

Archery deer hunters took a preliminary total of 73,598 deer, up from 71,226 one year ago.

Youth deer hunters harvested 4,057 deer, compared to 4,576 in 2023.

Firearm season hunters took a preliminary total of 82,496 deer, above the 76,494 deer taken during the 2024 firearm season.

Muzzleloader hunters shot 2,832 deer during the muzzleloader-only season, compared with 3,378 deer in the 2023 muzzleloader season.

The 2024-2025 late-winter antlerless-only and special chronic wasting disease seasons concluded Jan. 19 with a combined preliminary harvest of 7,775 deer – up from 4,639 deer last year.

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**PUBLIC RECORD**

**Traffic citations & Ordinance violations**

- 1-27 - Scott G. Streitmatter - Driving 21-25 mph above limit.
- 1-27 - Erick A. Sanchez - Unlicensed.
- 1-28 - Tyler J. Bolkema - Driving 15-20 mph above limit.
- 1-29 - Michael B. Bunch - Driving 11-14 mph above limit.

**Incidents & Accidents Stark County**

- 1-29 - A Toulon resident notified the Stark County Sheriff's Office of a grass and structure fire discovered in the 200 block of E. Greenwood St. in Toulon. The structure reportedly was scheduled for demolition and was described as a trailer. The Toulon Fire Department was dispatched to the scene.
- 1-30 - Cyiree D. L. Haymon, 21, Galesburg, was arrested for aggravated unlawful use of a weapon and for obstructing justice. He was also wanted on an outstanding warrant from the Galesburg Police Department for aggravated battery and aggravated discharge of a firearm. Haymon was taken into custody and booked in with a notice to appear in Stark County court before being extradited to the Knox County Jail in reference to his pending warrant.
- 1-30 - Preston D.R. Yoder, 20, of Granger, Ind. was cited for speeding 60 mph in a 45 zone.
- 1-31 - A traffic stop netted charges on both the vehicle driver Destanie C. Shebley, 26, of Walnut, and a passenger Timothy J. Sexton, 33, of Aurora. Shebley was cited for speeding 74 mph in a 55 zone and for failure to secure a child under the age of 8-years-old in an appropriate child restraint. Sexton was charged with illegal adult use of cannabis in a vehicle. Both Shebley and Sexton were released with court dates to appear. In another related incident, Shebley was ticketed again on Feb. 1, for speeding 77 mph in a 55 zone.
- 2-2 - Wilber J. Zoriano-Munoz, 22, Peoria, was cited for speeding 74 mph in a 55 zone and for driving without a valid driver's license. He was issued a court date to appear.
- 2-2 - Hyuk Lee-Jun, 27, Urbana, was ticketed for disobeying a stop sign.



**Galva Report**

**Officer dispatched:**

- 1-27 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a welfare check. The subject appeared to be suffering a mental-health crisis.
- 1-28 - to the 500 block of SW 4th Ave. for a dog-bite complaint. The animal owner suffered a minor bite injury from his own dog.
- 1-28 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for a trespassing complaint involving juveniles. The complaint was unfounded.
- 1-28 - to the 900 block of NW 6th St. to watch for a reckless driver who was reportedly traveling toward Galva on Bonham Road. The officer was not able to locate the suspect vehicle.
- 1-28 - to the 00 block of SW 4th St. for an activated alarm. It was determined to be an alarm clock from a neighbor's room.
- 1-28 - Kurtis Clevenger, 65, Watauga, was issued a citation for having expired registration in the 600 block of W. Division St.
- 1-29 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. for an unknown complaint. The subject appeared to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.
- 1-29 - to the 300 block of SW 3rd St. for a disturbance complaint. The suspect was transported by ambulance for evaluation/treatment.
- 1-29 - to the 00 block of Burlington Road to assist a citizen.
- 1-29 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 200 block of Exchange St., Kayla Snider, 34, Galva, was arrested on a Henry County warrant for failing to appear on a charge of resisting a police officer. This was a no bond warrant. She was taken to the Henry County Jail.
- 1-29 - to the 700 block of NW 4th

- St. for an unknown complaint. The subject appeared to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.
- 1-30 - As the result of a traffic stop in the 00 block of SW 6th Ave., Wyatt Stader, 21, Buda, was cited for operating a vehicle when registration suspended for mandatory insurance. He was released with a required court date.
- 1-30 - to a residence on NW 5th St. in reference to a complaint involving an unknown subject having an inappropriate online conversation with a minor.
- 1-31 - to the 700 block of NW 4th St. to try to assist a subject having a mental-health crisis.
- 1-31 - to assist the ambulance with a medical emergency in the 00 block of NE 8th Ave.
- 1-31 - to the 00 block of SW 4th Street for a disturbance complaint.
- 2-1 - to assist Henry County locate a subject walking along the railroad tracks east of town. The subject was located and instructed to stay off railroad property.
- 2-1 - to speak with a subject from Sentry Estates in reference to questions about an order of protection.
- 2-1 - to the 100 block of NE 6th Ave. to assist a subject who appeared to be suffering from a mental-health crisis.
- 2-2 - to the west edge of town to watch for a reckless driver on Route 34. The suspect vehicle was not located.

- Property Transfers**
- 1-27 - Quintin D. Kermeen to Byron R. Kermeen - Fair Acres Subdivision, Section 1 Block 17 - 206 N. 3rd St., Wyoming - Consideration = \$45,000.
- 1-27 - Bobby D. Gibson to Andrew and Jessica Jackson - Original Town of Wyoming - Pt. Block 8 Lots 1&2 - 102 S. 7th St., Wyoming - Consideration = \$12,500.
- 1-28 - Marilyn F. Eble to Philip A. Bryner - Culbertson's Western Add'n - Pts Block 2 lots 4 & 5 - 321 N. Culbertson St., Toulon - Consideration = \$138,000.

- Marriage License**
- 1-27 - Cassandra Michelle Springborn and Daniel Barrett Mayzel, both of Toulon.

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**CryptoQuote**  
 answer  
 It is the function of art to renew our perception. What we are familiar with we cease to see. — Anais Nin



# The Prairie News

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## GUEST VOICES



## Trump trade strategy: Big sticks, big bet

Sir Isaac Newton – he of “For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction” fame – was a polymath who excelled in math, physics, astronomy, alchemy and theology.

And now, if you squint, economics because as his Third Law of Motion suggests, when you push markets one way with tariffs – as the Trump White House did last week – you should expect an equal and opposite reaction from those same markets.

Take Colombia, the first target of President Trump’s tariffication policy. On Jan. 27, the White House imposed 25% tariffs on Colombian imports when it resisted the use of U.S. military flights, rather than



Alan GUEBERT

four- to eight-times cheaper commercial flights, to repatriate undocumented Colombians. Most American farm leaders gulped at the news for the little known reason that Colombia is the largest South American market for U.S. agricultural products, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, “and the seventh-largest market for U.S. food and beverage exports globally.”

That tariff tempest blew over in 24 hours but the knee-buckling use of U.S. power over costly, showy military flights is not likely to be forgotten by Colombian food buyers.

They don’t need to buy American, especially if U.S. leadership makes a point to embarrass them in their own commodity-rich backyard.

American farm leaders blanched again when the White House threatened to unilaterally hit our long-at-peace neighbors and best U.S. ag customers, Mexico and Canada, with similar 25% import tariffs a week later. Both nations immediately imposed reciprocal tariffs but then quickly announced settlements that included little new for anyone, according to several news services.

Other than, of course, handing the White House what it touted as a trade win when, in fact, explained the Feb. 4 New York Times, “ambiguity ... seems to be as much a part of (Trump’s) strategy as the threat of tariffs themselves.”

So no one gained much of anything in this week-long game of international chicken even though the White House insists that its big-stick trade policy won the day because Colombia, Mexico and Canada didn’t want to pay U.S. tariffs.

Which is perfect nonsense because exporters don’t pay tariffs, importers do.

This up-is-down misrepresentation matters because it involves U.S. ag’s three biggest farm and food importers: No. 1, Mexico that will buy \$30 billion in U.S. ag goods in 2025; No. 2, Canada, that will buy \$29.2 billion; and No. 3, China, that will buy \$23.3 billion of U.S. farm goods

and now is also under tariff threat by the White House.

Collectively, the three account for 48% of all forecasted 2025 U.S. farm sales abroad.

The last time the Trump White House played this wrong-headed tariff game, American farmers lost markets in China and the White House paid out \$23 billion in special federal payments to (principally) corn, soybean, and cotton growers because of those lost markets.

American taxpayers paid that \$23 billion tab, not China and certainly not any Chinese tariffs.

Will Congress, now searching U.S. Capitol couch cushions for nickels and dimes to fund the estimated \$5 trillion extension of the 2017 Trump tax cuts, pony up billions more to clean up a wrongheaded, second Trump ag tariff war?

Probably, but you wouldn’t know it from the silence that’s descended over Washington. No one in GOP ag leadership denounced the Trump tariffs last week and a few – unbelievably – actually endorsed them.

That’s just crazy and you know it and so does every GOP member of the ag committees.

Pushback – payback – is coming and that actual cost will fall on every American taxpayer, farmers and ranchers included.

*The Farm and Food File is published weekly throughout the U.S. and Canada. Past columns, supporting documents and contact info are at farmandfoodfile.com.*

## Trump not perfect but cares for country

To the Editor:

Legal residents of the U.S., in 2025 we have the opportunity to support our newly elected President of the United States. Donald Trump is by far from perfect, but has the best interest of our country at heart.

I believe that God has his attention, or has his ear so to speak. Well

a piece of it anyway. Literally!

As a conservative Christian, I pray every morning that God will guide him and give him wisdom to make intelligent and moral decisions that restores our nation to be under the umbrella of God’s shield of protection.

Each and every day we can decide whether to help or hinder the pro-

cess of making America great again. This earth is a battleground between good and evil. Do you support good or do you support evil? You have the freedom to choose!

– Thomas R. Bell, Elmwood

*The Prairie News welcomes letters to the editor.*

*Email to jeff@wklypost.com or mail to: The Prairie News 101 West Main Street, PO Box 240, Toulon, Illinois 61483*

*We reserve the right to edit letters..*



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# Cash flowing for carbon sequestration

By JENNIFER BAMBERG

Investigate Midwest

SPRINGFIELD – Nestled along the curves of the Illinois River just outside the town of Hennepin is the country’s largest dry-mill ethanol plant, where a network of pipes, grain elevators and exhaust towers rise like a mini-city. Surrounding the plant are hundreds of acres of corn, the state’s top crop often used to make ethanol fuel.

The plant’s owner, Marquis Energy, processes 360,000 bushels of corn each day, making it an important customer for the state’s nearly \$21 billion corn industry. A third of Illinois corn is used to make ethanol fuel.

Marquis Energy plans to build a new carbon capture and sequestration project – which would bury millions of tons of the ethanol plant’s air pollution underground – allowing it to expand its ethanol production and secure lucrative federal tax credits.

But the proposal has drawn opposition from some farmers and state lawmakers who worry carbon capture could pollute a nearby aquifer and disturb topsoil as new pipelines are built.

Marquis Energy, along with the state’s corn lobby, has responded with millions of dollars in campaign contributions to state lawmakers, an

Investigate Midwest analysis has found. Some of its largest recipients have pushed for pro-carbon capture policies and opposed new regulations.

Last year, the Illinois General Assembly approved a temporary ban on carbon capture projects and introduced a new bill to ban the practice around the Mahomet Aquifer in Central Illinois, which is the water source for over half a million people.

However, Senate President Don Harmon, an Oak Park Democrat, used his position as a committee chairman to table the Mahomet Aquifer bill during a November hearing. Multiple observers attending the hearing told Investigate Midwest they believe the bill would have passed if Harmon had allowed for a vote.

Since 2021, Harmon has received \$147,500 from Marquis Energy, according to the campaign finance database Illinois Sunshine.

Since 2020, Harmon has also received \$17,500 from the Illinois Corn Association, which also opposed the bill.

A spokesman for the Senate said Harmon was unaware Marquis Energy opposed the bill to protect the Mahomet Aquifer.

“I support additional safeguards to

protect our drinking water and the Mahomet Aquifer specifically,” Harmon said in a written statement to Investigate Midwest. “Given the moratorium that’s already in place and uncertainty of the new federal administration, I think it makes sense to pause and see what shakes out in D.C., and then consider our options. Our only priority is protecting clean drinking water.”

Marquis Energy contributed \$248,000 to state lawmakers last year, most of which went to Illinois’ four most powerful legislative leaders.

But last year’s contributions are just the latest in a decade-long effort by Marquis Energy and its CEO to shape policy at the Illinois statehouse. Since 2008, the company has spent \$1.2 million on state lawmaker campaigns.

Investigate Midwest attempted to contact Marquis Energy by phone and email several times. A spokesperson for the company said they were not interested in commenting at this time.

*Investigate Midwest is an independent, nonprofit newsroom. Our mission is to serve the public as a watchdog over influential corporations and institutions through in-depth and data-driven investigative journalism.*

## REAL ESTATE SALES

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT STARK COUNTY TOULON, ILLINOIS

U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee for the CIM TRUST 2020- R7 Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2020-R7 PLAINTIFF

Vs. Jeffrey Scott, et. al.

DEFENDANTS

No. 2024FC2

NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 12/20/2024, the Sheriff of Stark County, Illinois will on February 26, 2025 at the hour of 10:00 AM at Second floor courtroom of the Stark County Courthouse 130 Main Street Toulon, IL 61483, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stark and State of Illinois, sell at public auction

to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate:

PIN 02-26-210-002 Improved with Single Family Home COMMONLY KNOWN AS:

321 First Street

Bradford, IL 61421

Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation of the sale. The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting

any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-24-00595. 13259083 Published 1/24, 1/31, 2/7/25

**LARGE VALENTINES HOLIDAY ESTATE AUCTION**

THE LIVE IN PERSON & ON-LINE AUCTION TO BE HELD AT THE TUMBLESON AUCTION CENTER, 1635 NORTH MAIN STREET, PRINCETON, IL., LOCATED 100 MILES WEST OF CHICAGO, IL JUST OFF INT 80, EXIT 56, SOUTH ON RT. 26. ON: **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2025** TIME: 10:00 A.M. (PREVIEW: 8:00 A.M.) ABSENTEE BIDDING ON WEBSITE: [WWW.TUMBLESONAUCTION.COM](http://WWW.TUMBLESONAUCTION.COM) OR BID LIVE THRU PROXIBID

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**2024 MISSION: OUR MISSION IS HELPING PEOPLE HELP PEOPLE**

This report is published to tell everyone about the work of SCCS, Inc. and associated groups.

- To recognize all persons who contribute time and energy toward our common purposes
- To honor persons and groups who contribute money and goods.
- To inform everyone how time and goods were applied to our mission.
- To ask for continued support by prayer, act and word...that we may continue to respond to God's call to care for our neighbors.

**Board of Directors:**  
Mike Finnegan (Acting President and Treasurer), Bonnie Schmidt (Acting Secretary/Director of Food Pantry), Peggy Gray (director of Resource House), Mike Breese, Doug Blunier, Jim Graves & Diane Graves, Denise Turnbull (Board Members at Large).

Stark County Community Services, Inc. has been around since 1992 but we began helping people in the early 1980s. The growth of service agencies has come about because of the need of people in our county. Thanks to many volunteers and their dedication, families who felt lost are now breathing a little easier. We are a Not-For-Profit corporation registered with the Federal Revenue Service as a 501-C-3 agency. One hundred percent (100%) of dollars received go to fulfill our mission: **helping people help people.**

Stark County Community Services, Inc. Is the umbrella corporation under which several agencies operate. Included in these are the Resource House and Stark County Emergency Food Pantry.

It is our goal to continue God's work as best we can and make a difference in people's lives. We thank you for your support and faith this year.

Stark County Community Services, Inc. Board of Directors

---

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT**

<p><b>STARK COUNTY EMERGENCY FOOD PANTRY</b> 322 S. Downend St., Toulon, IL 61483 • 309-286-6611</p> <p><b>INCOME:</b></p> <p>DONATIONS <b>\$29,498.62</b> (Cash/Food/Grants)</p> <p><b>EXPENSES:</b></p> <p>Food Purchased &amp; Operational Expense <b>\$28,845.32</b> (Rent/Utilities/Office Supplies/Phone)</p> <p><b>HOUSEHOLDS SERVED: 547</b></p>	<p><b>RESOURCE HOUSE</b> 102 N. 7th St., Wyoming, IL 61491 • 309-695-5660</p> <p><b>STARK COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.</b> P. O. Box 357, Toulon, IL 61483</p> <p><b>INCOME:</b> <b>\$16,950.00</b></p> <p><b>TOTAL EXPENSE:</b> <b>\$19,591.10</b></p> <p><b>111 Requests – 267 People Served.</b></p>	<p><b>STARK COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC.</b> P.O. Box 357, Toulon, IL 61483</p> <p><b>INCOME:</b></p> <p>Donations <b>\$3,500.00</b></p> <p>Other Income <b>\$15,455.49</b></p> <p><b>Total Expense: \$22,087.90</b></p>
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**WE NEED YOUR PRAYERS AND GENEROUS GIFTS MORE THAN EVER.** Please send your tax deductible gifts to **Stark County Community Services, Inc., P. O. Box 357, Toulon, IL 61483.** Please specify if you want your gift to go to a specific ministry, otherwise we will direct it to the greatest need. Thank you!



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**CALL (309) 286-2185**

**Galva pharmacist honored for service**

GALVA – Mayor Rich Volkert presented Scott Caravello a proclamation for his 32 years of service as the Galva pharmacist.

Caravello closed the downtown pharmacy on Exchange Street after 32 years of serving Galva area residents. It was noted that Caravello helped many residents by delivering their prescriptions. He was also active in many community projects.

It was reported that 2,800 small pharmacies closed in 2024.

First Ward Alderman Jeff Olson thanked Caravello and his family for all of their support to the community, saying, “You are missed and loved.”

**Galva Pre-K sign up to be held Feb. 10-13**

GALVA – Galva Elementary School will have its Pre-K sign-up on Feb. 10-13 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day.

Parents may pick-up paperwork in the Elementary School foyer.

Children signing up must be three before Sept. 1. Currently, Pre-K students returning next year will be automatically registered for the 2025-26 school year.

Due to limited enrollment, each child will be screened in March to determine who will be eligible to attend. You will be contacted to schedule a screening time.

If you have any questions please call Brynn Patty at (309) 932-2420.

– Carol Townsend

**BRIEFS**



Scott Caravello (above at left), pharmacist at the former Galva Pharmacy accepts a proclamation from Galva Mayor Rich Volkert. Photo by Carol Townsend.

**Tri-County will award 12 scholarships**

ROCK FALLS – Tri-County Opportunities Council will award at least 12 scholarships to income eligible students residing in the agency's service area. The Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has made the scholarships, worth up to \$1,250 available through its Community Services Block Grant funds. To be eligible:

- Applicants must be a member of an income eligible household.
- Applicants must attend an Illinois-accredited postsecondary educational institution of higher learning during the fall of 2025.
- Applicants must be residents of Bureau, Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark, or White-side counties.

• Applicants must be fulltime students (minimum of 12 semester hours). Part-time students will be considered, however, scholarship awards will be prorated if they are selected as a winner.

The deadline is March 14.

Forms and information may be obtained by contacting the office at (800) 323-5434, extension 710, or online at [www.tcohelps.org](http://www.tcohelps.org).

**Free country concert Feb. 27 at Black Hawk**

GALVA – The Chan Band will perform free concerts of classic country and modern country hits Feb. 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Black Hawk College's East Campus. The concert will be in the auditorium in Building A.

Visitor parking is available between Building 4 and Building 1.

Free soul food (while supplies last) will also be served.

The performance is part of Black Hawk College's Black History Month celebration.

Led by bassist Chan Newell, the Chan Band hails from Jefferson City, Mo.

**College Honors**

• Several local students made the Dean's list (3.5 gpa or better) at Augustana College for the 2024-25 fall semester: **Olivia Jones** of Galva and **Olivia Bessler** and **Tristan Gerber**, both of Toulon.

• **James Kieser** of Bradford made the Dean's list (3.5 gpa or better) at the University of Iowa for the fall 2024 semester.

*You're Invited!*

**AG OUTLOOK MEETING**

February 14, 2025  
Registration starts at 8:00am

Midland Golf Course  
3536 Midland Rd, Kewanee, IL  
(Formerly Kewanee Dunes)

**MEETING STARTING AT 8:00 AM WITH A BUFFET BREAKFAST**

**RSVP by February 10**  
Please call Tammy Main at State Bank of Toulon at 309.286.2861 to reserve your spot today!

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- Noelle Neef of Illinois Farm Bureau, Asst. Dir. of Energy - **45z Policy and Guidance**

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# BLUEBIRDS: Controlling predators a key

*Continued from Page 1* as they were in the 1960s when their plight became national news. Predators were a problem then and now, but so too was a loss of nesting habitat – wood fenceposts and dead trees.

To solve the problem, people started putting up bluebird nest boxes. That was the focus of an article in Parade magazine some 45 years ago that got Unkrich involved. Many others followed suit, and their thousands of bluebird boxes have helped the population of the pretty bird stabilize.

Certainly that's the case in Peoria County, which Unkrich said ranked No. 1 in the state for fledges reported to the East Central Illinois Bluebird Society.

That's no accident. In January, Unkrich spoke at the Brimfield Public Library about his passion for tending bluebird boxes. True to his engineering background, the nest box he showed to the crowd of 20 has undergone numerous refinements accounting for everything from airflow to best materials to ease of access.

You can see many similar boxes in Jubilee College State Park or anywhere else Unkrich visits in a territory that stretches from 2 miles south of Hanna City to 2 miles south of Dunlap. You may also see Unkrich riding his bike from box to box, checking on the progress of his bluebirds.

That's one of his rules for fledging bluebirds: You need to check boxes at least once a week during nesting season in March and April. The reason for that is to control predators like house sparrows, house wrens, buffalo gnats and wasps. Sparrows and wrens are common and deadly foes of bluebirds, Unkrich said.

"A house sparrow will

kill a female bluebird in the box and build their nest right on her," he said. "They want every box."

To stop that, Unkrich uses a trap to catch sparrows that frequent a bluebird box. He then euthanizes the sparrows, which otherwise will not leave, he said.

Gnats are also hard on bluebird fledglings, which give off CO2 that attracts the pesky bugs. Left unchecked, gnats can kill baby bluebirds. So Unkrich dabs pure vanilla extract and eucalyptus oil around nest-box openings to create a buffer.

He also removes wasp nests from inside his boxes and goes to lengths to deter raccoons. To support his nest boxes, Unkrich first drives a 4-foot piece of rebar into the ground. Over that he slides EMT electrical conduit that attaches to the nest box.

He also attaches a 4-inch aluminum dryer vent to the conduit below most boxes. The slippery vent serves as a baffle that helps stop raccoons. Coating the pole with automotive grease will also help.

About the only predators that have Unkrich at a loss are snakes, which regularly raid one of his boxes at Jubilee College State Park.

"I've still got to work on that one," he said.

Over the course of 45 years, though, Bluebird Herb has plenty of other tips for would-be bluebird enthusiasts. Here are some.

- Put up nest boxes by mid-February, since nesting season starts in late March or early April.
- Don't mount nest boxes on a fence line or tree, as raccoons can find those boxes easily.
- Mount boxes so the entrance hole is about 5 feet above the ground. And orient the opening so that it faces east. That helps keep



Bluebirds typically lay four or five light-blue eggs in a nest, though some eggs can be white. The incubation period is 13-14 days from the date of the last egg laid. Nestlings remain in the box 17-21 days.

out cold northwest winds.

- Good locations for boxes include pastureland, acreages, parks with limited amounts of human traffic and mowed areas such as cemeteries and golf courses. Avoid bushy or heavily wooded areas.

- Clean out boxes after each nesting. Bluebirds typically raise two broods per season, but three broods are possible.

- Bluebird nests are cup-shaped and are usually entirely made from woven grass or pine needles. A nest made of sticks probably belongs to a house wren and should be removed immediately. If you find feathers lining a nest, it probably belongs to a sparrow. Fur-lined nests typically belong to black-capped chickadees. All should be removed.

- Don't open your box when babies are between 12-14 days old, since nestlings may leave the box before they are able to fly.

- Keep nest boxes at least 100 yards apart.

Finally, enjoy seeing bluebirds flying, eating insects and perching near the nest box you provide.

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# LEGAL ADS

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE NINTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT KNOX COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Estate of ROBERT K. FREEMAN, deceased No. 2024-PR-152

#### CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)

Notice is given of the death of ROBERT K. FREEMAN. Letters of Office were issued on December 5, 2024, to ROBERT SCOTT FREEMAN, 1424 N. Cedar, Galesburg, IL 61401, as Independent Administrator, whose attorney is Michael Massie, Massie & Quick, LLC, P.O. Box 205, Galva, IL 61434.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Knox County Circuit Clerk, Knox County Courthouse, 200 S. Cherry St., Galesburg, IL 61401, or with the representative, or both, within six months from the date of first publication, the BAR DATE, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

Massie & Quick, LLC Attorneys for Estate P.O. Box 205 Galva, IL 61434 Telephone: (309) 932-2168 Published 1/24, 1/31, 2/7/25

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE 10TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

### STARK COUNTY TOULON, ILLINOIS

U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Trustee for the CIM TRUST 2020-R7 Mortgage-Backed Notes, Series 2020-R7 PLAINTIFF Vs. Jeffrey Scott; et. al. DEFENDANTS No. 2024FC2

#### NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale entered in the above cause on 12/20/2024, the Sheriff of Stark County, Illinois will on February 26, 2025 at the hour of 10:00 AM at Second floor courtroom of the Stark County Courthouse 130 Main Street Toulon, IL 61483, or in a place otherwise designated at the time of sale, County of Stark and State of Illinois, sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, as set forth below, the following described real estate: LOT TWO (2) IN BLOCK "D" IN B.S. FOSTER ADDITION TO THE TOWN, NOW VILLAGE OF BRADFORD, SITUATED IN STARK COUNTY, ILLINOIS PIN 02-26-210-002

Improved with Single Family Home COMMONLY KNOWN AS: 321 First Street Bradford, IL 61421 Sale terms: 10% down of the highest bid by certified funds at the close of the auction; The balance, including the Judicial sale fee for Abandoned Residential Property

Municipality Relief Fund, which is calculated at the rate of \$1 for each \$1,000 or fraction thereof of the amount paid by the purchaser not to exceed \$300, in certified funds, is due within twenty-four (24) hours. The subject property is subject to general real estate taxes, special assessments, or special taxes levied against said real estate and is offered for sale without any representation as to quality or quantity of title and without recourse to Plaintiff and in "AS IS" condition. The sale is further subject to confirmation by the court.

If the property is a condominium and the foreclosure takes place after 1/1/2007, purchasers other than the mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under The Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/9(g)(1) and (g)(4).

If the property is located in a common interest community, purchasers other than mortgagees will be required to pay any assessment and legal fees due under the Condominium Property Act, 765 ILCS 605/18.5(g-1).

If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The Purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney.

Upon payment in full of the amount bid, the purchaser shall receive a Certificate of Sale, which will entitle the purchaser to a Deed to the real estate after Confirmation

The successful purchaser has the sole responsibility/expense of evicting any tenants or other individuals presently in possession of the subject premises.

The property will NOT be open for inspection and Plaintiff makes no representation as to the condition of the property. Prospective bidders are admonished to check the Court file to verify all information.

IF YOU ARE THE MORTGAGOR (HOMEOWNER), YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN IN POSSESSION FOR 30 DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF AN ORDER OF POSSESSION, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 15-1701(C) OF THE ILLINOIS MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LAW.

For information: Examine the court file or contact Plaintiff's attorney: Codilis & Associates, P.C., 15W030 North Frontage Road, Suite 100, Burr Ridge, IL 60527, (630) 794-9876. Please refer to file number 14-24-00595. 13259083 Published 1/24, 1/31, 2/7/25

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF: PATRICK J. KOGA, No. 2025PR6 Deceased

#### CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)

Notice is given of the death of Patrick J. Koga. Letters of Office were issued on January 22, 2025, to Rebecca Ann Frank as Executor whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of the court, Henry County, Cambridge, Illinois or with the representative, or both on or before July 22, 2025. Any claim not filed by that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing provider. Visit <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit [www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.p.asp](http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.p.asp). Or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Name Barash & Everett, LLC Attorney for Executor Address P.O. Box 165 City Galva, IL 61434 Phone(309) 932-2001 Email: everetr@barashlaw.com Published 1/31, 2/7, 2/14/25

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF: Louis Harold Nordeen Deceased No. 2024PR13

#### NOTICE TO HEIRS AND LEGATEES AND CLAIM NOTICE

To: Stephan Larson, Becky Larson-Webster, Lisa Larson-Trail, Michael Fischlein, Glenda Fischlein-Lopez, Russell Lee, Mary Lieferman, David Lee, Nicholas Lee, Myranda Lee, Joshua Lee, Rebekka Griffith, Terry Nordeen, Lester Nordeen, Kim Nordeen, and Dan Nordeen AND UNKNOWN HEIRS

Notice is given of the death of Louis Harold Nordeen.

Notice is given to the above named who are heirs or legatees in the above proceeding to probate a will and whose name or address is not stated in the petition.

Letters of Office were issued on January 24th, 2025 to Stewart Nordeen as Administrator whose attorney is Barash & Everett, LLC, P.C., PO Box 165, Galva, IL 61434.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the Clerk of the Court Cambridge, Illinois 61238 or with the representative, or both on or before July 24, 2025. Any claim not filed by that date is barred.

Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representatives and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Within 42 days after the effective date of the original order of admission you may file a petition with the court to require proof of the will by testimony of the witnesses to the will in open court or other evidence, as provided in 6-21 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/6-21).

You also have the right under section 8-1 of the Probate Act of 1975 (755 ILCS 5/8-1) to contest the validity of the will by filing a petition with the court within 6 months after admission of the will to probate.

E-filing is now mandatory for documents in civil cases with limited exemptions. To e-file, you must first create an account with an e-filing service provider.

Visit: <http://efile.illinoiscourts.gov/service-providers.htm> to learn more and to select a service provider. If you need additional help or have trouble e-filing, visit: <http://www.illinoiscourts.gov/FAQ/gethelp.asp>, or talk with your local circuit clerk's office.

Filings are to be made with: Henry County Circuit Clerk Courthouse, Cambridge, Illinois Barash & Everett, LLC Attorney for Executor PO Box 165 Galva, IL 61434

Telephone: 309/932-2001 Facsimile: 309/932-3151 Email: everetr@barashlaw.com Published 1/31, 2/7, 2/14/25

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FOURTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT HENRY COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ESTATE OF Wayne Abbot a/k/a Bernard Wayne Abbott, No. 2025PR16 Deceased

#### CLAIM NOTICE (Publication)

Notice is given of the death of Wayne Abbott a/k/a Bernard Wayne Abbott. Letters of Office were issued on January 29, 2025, to Theresa Dickerson as Administer whose attorneys are Barash & Everett, LLC.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the office of the clerk of the court, Henry County, Cambridge, Illinois or with the representative, or both on or before July 29, 2025.

Any claim not filed by that date is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

Name Barash & Everett, LLC Attorney for Administrator Address P.O. Box 165 City Galva, IL 61434 Phone (309) 932-2001 Published 2/7, 2/14, 2/21/25

### Henry-Stark Counties Special Education District will receive sealed bids for Asbestos Abatement for 2025 Future Building Renovations at the Former American Legion Post 31, 1509 Railroad Avenue in Kewanee, IL.

The work is as follows: Remove non-asbestos-containing ceiling tile (approximately 600 square feet) from the bar and restrooms and carpet (approximately 200 square feet) from the ramp. Remove asbestos-containing sprayed on acoustical material (approximately 8,375 square feet) from the 1st and 2nd floor roof and floor decks utilizing gross removal methods under AHERA regulations.

The Date of Commencement is April 1, 2025. The Date of Substantial Completion is April 30, 2025.

The Mandatory Prebid Meeting is on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. The Prebid Meeting will be held at Former American Legion Post 31, 1509 Railroad Avenue in Kewanee, IL 61443.

Please visit IDEAL Environmental Engineering's website at [www.idealenvironmental.com](http://www.idealenvironmental.com) to register, confirm pre-bid attendance and order the project manuals, project manual costs are listed on the website. Costs are non-refundable and must be ordered through the website. Manual may be viewed at Owner or Engineer offices.

The Bid Opening will be on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. at Henry-Stark Counties Special Education District, 1318 W 6th Street in Kewanee, IL 61443. Published 2/7/25

## Super Crossword

### CELEBRITY ANAGRAMS

<b>ACROSS</b>	43 "Juno and the Paycock" playwright Sean	83 Moose kin in Spain	<b>DOWN</b>	1 Less refined	38 Virtual money	75 Many a monk
1 Hindu music pattern	44 He played Otto Octavius in "Spider-Man 2"	84 These, in Spain	1 Au courant	40 "— vincit amor"	41 Heavy drinker	76 Some unofficial sci-fi stories
5 Captivated	48 Truth bender	85 Alternative to laser tag	2 Top medals	45 "It's go time!"	44 Bar brew	78 Two-gender pronoun
13 Kellogg's toaster treat	49 Shifts body weight against	88 — buco	4 Valved brass instrument	46 Almanac, in large part	47 Ship's diary	79 Prefix with center
20 Missing GI	50 Pics to click	89 Apt item for 44-Across to keep files in?	5 Make a gaffe	48 Trent of Mississippi	50 Slushy drink	86 Swiss mount
21 Sprinted competitively, perhaps	52 Which person	92 Chief Cochise, e.g.	6 California wine valley	51 — Rica	52 Accessory near a mouse	87 Bowled over
22 One shunning something	55 Series-ending abbr.	95 Garlic mayo	7 Have — with (be favored by)	53 Real estate transaction	54 Individuals	88 Gas ratings
23 Best Actor nominee for "Mrs. Miniver"	56 "Yes, Yvette"	97 Principal	8 Lady's title	58 "It's too hard for me"	59 Brought on	89 Floor cleaner
25 Maximal-ebb phenomenon	57 "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised" poet	98 Apt business for 33-Across to have on the stock exchange?	9 Assn.	60 More crafty	61 Comic Idle	90 Styled after
26 Trauma pro in a hosp.	62 Jeff Bridges sci-fi film	101 Mimicking a crow's cry	10 "Norma —"	63 "— I a stinker?"	64 "I'd rather — there" ("That topic is off limits")	91 Writer Anais
27 "Knives Out" actress — de Armas	65 Glockenspiel relative	105 Sci-fi princess	11 Writer Umberto	65 "— I a stinker?"	67 A while ago	92 Partners
28 No, in File	66 Frosty film	106 Alias letters	12 IHOP competitor	66 Frosty film	69 Loch —	93 Capital of South Dakota
30 Japanese wheat pasta	67 Planet's path	107 Pal, to Yves	13 Prefix with -lithic or -zoic	67 Planet's path	70 Ketchup ingredient	94 Laotians and Thai
31 Filmed again	68 Trying Jenny Craig, e.g.	110 Former chief justice Roger	14 — -lacto vegetarian	68 Trying Jenny Craig, e.g.	72 Belittled, informally	95 Just dandy
33 American Ballet Theatre principal dancer beginning in 2015	70 Stands up	111 Carrier based in Tehran	15 "Wham!"	70 Stands up	73 Study of insects, informally	96 Likenesses
39 Double Stuf cookies	71 Middy time	114 Apt ingredient for 23-Across to make a jiggy dessert?	16 From which a name is taken	71 Middy time		99 Leslie of "Lil"
42 Look for water with a diving rod	72 Treaty result	119 Guevara called "Che"	17 Reebok rival	72 Treaty result		100 "The Deep" director Peter
	74 Impacts	120 Exhibit A, say	18 Made over	74 Impacts		102 Delhi's land
	77 Apt retail establishment for 57-Across to own?	121 Assistant	19 Au courant	77 Apt retail establishment for 57-Across to own?		103 Very poor
	80 "Kewl"	122 Court period	24 Tourist destination that's "green"	80 "Kewl"		104 Whirls around
	81 Daddies	123 Like the Zax and the Lorax	29 Golf rarity	81 Daddies		108 Short skirt
		124 Gleeful cries	32 Ho-humness			109 Old Peruvian
			34 Cruel Amin			113 Skater Midori
			35 Many an heir			115 Adam and —
			36 Pan Am rival			116 Actress Lucy
			37 Travel origin, generically			117 TV pitches
						118 Signing tool

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## OBITUARIES

### Leo A. Collinson

GALVA – Leo A. Collinson, 85, of Galva, died at 8:25 p.m., Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, at OSF Richard L. Owens Hospice Home in Peoria.

He was born Nov. 20, 1939, in Galva, the son of Joseph and Doris (Smith) Collinson. He married Alice Yelm on Nov. 27, 1963, in Galesburg and she preceded him in death on July 26, 1997. He later married Virginia A. Anderson on April 10, 2008, on a boat on the Peace River in Punta Gorda, Fla.

Survivors include his wife of Galva; two sons, Larry (Patty) Collinson of Galva and Mark (Kendra) Stambaugh of Wichita, Kan.; three daughters, Marsha Sterns of Springfield, Ohio, and Dawn Scott and Tracy (Bob) Raley, both of Galva; seven grandchildren, Cody Collinson, Craig (Kelly) Collinson, Joe (Amanda) DeWitt, Sadie DeWitt and her fiancé Nik Lopatin, Haley Chavis, Gavin Raley and Madison Cotton; and great-grandchildren Olivia Collinson and one Collinson on the way, Ethan Walden, Ryan Bond and Leo Raley.

He was also preceded in death by his parents; his twin sister, Leota; and three brothers, Lyle, Harold and Gordon.

Leo graduated from Galva High School in 1958 and he served in the U.S. Army in Korea. He worked as a machine operator for Navistar and Farmall until his retirement.

He was a member of the First Baptist Church in Galva, the Galva American Legion Hagberg-Hamlin Post 45, a 60-plus-year member of the Odd Fellows, a member of Hook & Bullet Conservation Club and had been a precinct committeeman. Leo had the privilege of attending the Honor Flight of the Quad Cities and was active with the Galva Food Pantry. He was a Cub Scout Master and assistant scout master from 1957-60, and had helped with the local Boy Scout Troop 143.

He was an avid outdoorsman enjoying camping, hunting and fishing. Leo was a jack of all trades who enjoyed ice cream when he wasn't supposed to and had a strong dislike for raccoons.

Memorial services will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 8, at Rux Funeral Home in Galva with Deacon Michael Crummer officiating. Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 7, at the funeral home. Inurnment will be in Galva, where military rites will be accorded by the Galva Fusiliers. Memorials may be directed to Boy Scout Troop 143 or to the First Baptist Church in Galva.



Collinson

### Sandra Johnson

GALVA – Sandra "Sandy" Johnson, 84, of Galva, died Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, at her home.

She was born March 21, 1940, in Lawrenceville, Ill., the daughter of Earl W. and Naoma "Pauline" (Lanear) Richison. She married Wayne M. Johnson on July 7, 1961, in Altona and he preceded her in death on March 6, 2009.

Survivors include her siblings, Randy Richison, Danny Richison, Becky Richison-Ashlock, Dixie Heaton and Wesley (Diane) Richison; and several cousins, nieces and nephews and great-nieces and great-nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Larry Richison.

In her early years Sandy worked at a candy shop in downtown Galva, as a cook at Phil's Drive-in and at Lily-Tulip. Sandy had also owned a gift and antique shop in Bishop Hill for 21 years.

She was a member of the former Grace United Methodist Church in Galva. She had a love for cats and enjoyed sewing and painting and doing crafts, ceramics and China painting with Sharon Collis. She also helped in starting the craft show that happens annually in Galva.

Graveside services were to be held at 11 a.m., Thursday, Feb. 6, at Galva Cemetery with Pastor Lou Guthrie officiating. Memorials may be directed to the Bishop Hill Heritage Association or to the Henry County Humane Society. Rux Funeral Home in Galva is assisting with arrangements.

### Harry A. Moore

GALVA – Harry Alan Moore, "The Farmer" 83, of Kewanee went to be with God at 2:20 p.m., Friday, Jan. 31, 2025, at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

A funeral service was Feb. 4 at Rux Funeral Home in Kewanee with Linnea Gustafson officiating. Visitation was one hour prior to the services at the funeral home. Burial was in Floral Hill Cemetery in Neponset. Memorials may be directed to the Wethersfield FFA Chapter.

Harry was born on May 2, 1941, in Sheffield, the son of Everett and Esther (Lena) Moore. His father died when he was 2 years old, and his mother married Edwin Larson, who helped raise him on his dairy farm.

He married Beverly S. "Bev" Bell on Nov. 4, 1962, in Wyand. He was her partner for 68 years and was an



Johnson



Moore

awesome husband, father of four, grandpa of 11 and greatgrandpa of two. He was a friend, confidant and a go-to person who would always listen and always made things fun and happy.

He is survived by his wife, Bev; his children, Sheri Sue (Jim) Streitmatter of Kewanee and their children, Jarod (Rachael) Carrasca and their son Baron Alan, Madison Carrasca and son Nash, and Erik James Alan Streitmatter; Teri Lynn (Larry) Harker of Lebanon, Ind. and their children, Kalyn Marie, Isaac Andrew, Tori Elizabeth and Garrett Mitchell; Traci (Dan) Hier of Kewanee and their children Daci Sierra and Traidan Cheyenne; and Richard Alan and Lisa Moore of Trivoli and their children, Makenna Belle and Calab Alan; a sister, Betty (Dave) White of Kewanee and Edwina (Gary) Christiansen of Bloomington. He was preceded in death by his parents and stepfather and eight siblings.

He graduated from Buda High School in 1959, attended DeVry University and had taken some aircraft flight training classes. He was a farmer but had also worked over the years as a machinist for John Deere Harvester, Hyster and Compaction America. The Farmer was a loving husband, dad and grandpa and will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

### Robert J. Gale

GALVA – Robert J. Gale, 77, of Galva, died Jan. 31, 2025, at OSF Saint Mary Medical Center in Galesburg.

He was born on Oct. 25, 1947, in Kewanee, the son of Robert Dean and Helen I. (Sandquist) Gale. He married Rebecca G. "Becky" Ringle.

Survivors include his wife of Galva; three sons, Kevin (Bryann) Gale and Kraig (Dawn) Gale, both of Galva, and Kyle (Sheliah) Gale of Ankeny, Iowa; sister, Shirley Crisco of Galva; and eight grandchildren, Kaylyn, Kinsley, Klaire, Josie, Nathan, Kalleigh, Grayson and Harlow.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Bob graduated from Galva High School. He had farmed in the Galva area for many years. His true passion was farming and he enjoyed following his sons and grandchildren's sporting events.

Cremation will be accorded and no services will be held. Memorials may be directed to a charity of the donor's choice. Rux Funeral Home in Galva is assisting the family with arrangements.

### Helen Jeffriess

GALVA – Helen Jeffriess, 81, of Galva, died at 12:18 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2025 at OSF Saint Luke Medical in Kewanee. Arrangements are pending at Rux Funeral Home in Galva.



## CHURCH DIRECTORY

### Toulon Methodist Church

229 W. Main St., P.O. Box 538, Toulon, IL. 61483  
Phone (309) 286-2224  
Pastor Glenn Corbly Phone (309) 286-2224 or (217) 778-1591  
Toulon Sunday School 9:15 a.m., all ages & Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

### LaFayette Methodist Church

Illinois Highway 17, P.O. Box 147, LaFayette, IL. 61449  
Phone (309) 995-3371  
Pastor Glenn Corbly Phone (309) 995-3371 or (217) 778-1591.  
LaFayette Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

### West Jersey United Methodist Church

Illinois Highway 78, West Jersey, IL. Rev. Pablo Marty  
Phone (217) 425-5707  
Sunday Worship: 9 a.m.

### Elmira United Presbyterian Church

Rev. Art Blegen  
7874 State Route 93, Toulon, IL 61483  
(309) 896-3481  
Services each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.  
<https://www.facebook.com/Elmirachurch1852>

### The Gathering Church

Location: 105 N. 7th St., Wyoming, IL 61491  
Sunday mornings @ 10:30 a.m.  
Mail: PO Box 322, Wyoming, IL 61491  
email: [info@thegathering.life](mailto:info@thegathering.life)  
web: <https://www.thegathering.life/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/thegatheringchurch.life>

### 1st Congregational Church of Toulon

(309) 286-4901  
218 N. Henderson St., Toulon  
Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
Email [fcctoulon@gmail.com](mailto:fcctoulon@gmail.com)  
website: [firstcongregationaltoulon.org](http://firstcongregationaltoulon.org)

### Galva Congregational Church

Pastor Marshall Jones  
211 N.W. 3rd Avenue, Galva, Illinois 61434  
(309) 932-3733  
Service Time 10 a.m.

### First Baptist Church

"faith in truth"  
211 NW 4th Ave GALVA  
Main Service: Sun 10:30  
Rev. Bryan Griem, Pastor  
(309) 932-2713 • [GalvaBaptistChurch.com](http://GalvaBaptistChurch.com)

### Wyoming Nazarene Church

517 N Madison Ave. Wyoming, IL 61491  
Rev. Shawna Marsh  
Sunday School: 10:00, All ages  
Sunday Worship: 11:00  
Wednesday Night Fellowship & Prayer 5:30  
Kids Club 3:05-5:15 checkin to 7:00 p.m.  
Check us out on Facebook: Wyoming Naz

### First Congregational Church

202 N. 7th St., PO Box 35, Wyoming, IL 61491  
(309) 695-4091  
Sunday Worship 9 a.m.  
Check us out on Facebook  
First Congregational Church of Wyoming, Illinois

### Toulon First Baptist Church

110 W. Jefferson St. Toulon  
(309) 286-4611  
Sunday School 9 a.m. • Worship 10 a.m.  
Sunday Youth Group 5-7 p.m.  
Wednesday Kid's Club 5:30-7 p.m.  
Wednesday Virtual Prayer Meeting 7 p.m.  
Email: [pastor@toulonbaptist.com](mailto:pastor@toulonbaptist.com)  
[www.ToulonBaptist.com](http://www.ToulonBaptist.com)  
[www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon](http://www.facebook.com/FirstBaptistChurchToulon)  
Call us for Salvation Army Assistance

### St. Timothy Lutheran Church

Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.  
16883 State Route 17, PO Box 158 - Wyoming, IL 61491  
[allsaintsil.com](http://allsaintsil.com)

### Galva Messiah Lutheran Church (ELCA)

317 SW Third Street, Galva, IL  
Casual, family friendly  
Rev. Katie Gallagher  
Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. Adult Discussion Group, 5:30 p.m.  
Worship (in Luther Hall)  
Sunday: 9 a.m. Worship, 10 a.m. Children's Sunday School  
Contact: [messiahlutherangalva@gmail.com](mailto:messiahlutherangalva@gmail.com)  
1-309-932-3346  
Facebook: Messiah Lutheran—Galva, IL

### Galva First United Methodist Church

Rev. Rebecca Gearhart  
214 NW 2nd Ave., Galva, IL 61434  
(309) 932-2460  
[preachinghope@gmail.com](mailto:preachinghope@gmail.com)  
[galvafirst@gmail.com](mailto:galvafirst@gmail.com)  
Sunday Worship: 9:00

### Holy Trinity National Catholic Church

Father John Cramer  
716 N. Tremont, Kewanee, IL  
Mass - Sat. at 5 p.m., Sun. at 9 a.m., Mon. - Thurs. at 9 a.m.

### Wyoming United Methodist Church

Pastor Rebecca Klemm  
302 North Main Street PO Box 287 Wyoming, IL, 61491-0287.  
309-606-9027  
Email: [WyomingUMCPastor@gmail.com](mailto:WyomingUMCPastor@gmail.com)  
Service is held at 10:30 Sunday morning.

### Bradford Leet United Methodist Church

Boyd's Grove United Methodist Church  
Leet UMC 118 E. Main St., Bradford, IL 61421  
Services on Sundays at 10:15 a.m.

Boyd's Grove UMC 1976 Wyand Walnut Rd, Bradford, IL. 61421  
Services on Sundays at 9 a.m.  
Rev Dan Wright  
309-897-8113 309-507-1626  
[thewrights62@hotmail.com](mailto:thewrights62@hotmail.com)

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**Pages From the Past** Compiled by John A. Ballentine

**5 Years Ago in 2020**

- LaFayette School District completes its final act by donating a final \$500 donation to the Stark County Education Foundation. The group gave a total of \$11,550 in scholarships over the years.
- The Galva Chamber of Commerce designates John Hathaway, of Hathaway's Fresh Market as 2020 Citizen Of the Year.

**10 Years Ago in 2015**

- Toulon continued investigations into alleged misuse of city funds by a former city employee. Eventually Toulon filed an insurance claim for the lost funds.
- A new grain bin with a 550,000-bushel capacity was constructed at Toulon's Rumbold & Kuhn's facility by Koehl Brothers, of Fairbury.
- Bradford Police Chief Pat Horrie resigns and is replaced by Landon Horrie, who was appointed.
- Four generations were represented by Donna King, granddaughter Melinda Edwards, great-granddaughter Vada Edwards and son Wade Wilkinson.

**25 Years Ago in 2000**

- Toulon receives a big check for a State of Illinois grant to finance a new community center.
- Shania Twain was featured at Toulon's 2000 Old Settlers' celebration with Donna Huber performing a "Tribute to Shania Twain."

- Beth Winslow is named vice-president at the State Bank of Toulon.

- Wyoming received a \$15,000 check from Illinois First to replace trees lost in last year's summer storm.

- Stark County High School girls' basketball team won the regional tournament, held at Wethersfield.

**35 Years Ago in 1990**

- Toulon-LaFayette educational board looked at Wethersfield-Kewanee to bolster high school curriculum offerings.

- Wyoming High School enters into an agreement with Princeville High School to co-op football.

- A Bradford church and community youth group restored the village's street signs.

- Reverend Kevin Bengtson assumes the pastorate at Toulon's First Baptist Church.

- The Bradford Lady Panthers claimed the Bradford regional basketball championship.

- The Wyoming city council changes the name of Breeze Park to Duryea Park to honor the automotive industry pioneers Frank and Charles Duryea.

- Wyoming High School boys' basketball team wins the Bradford regional tournament.

**40 Years Ago in 1985**

- No Stark County newspaper was

published.

**50 Years Ago in 1975**

- Glen Engstrom becomes Toulon's police chief. He previously worked for the Galva police department.

- Stark County residents were given notice that the county landfill would be open March 10-22. The landfill was located 1 mile west of Modena.

- Wyoming's Murphy Chevrolet purchased the large lot and building at Madison Avenue and Diagonal Road, Route 17, formerly the location of the Polk-Drive-In restaurant.

**65 Years Ago in 1960**

- The Osceola Baptist Church celebrated its 100th anniversary.

- Free welding classes were offered to farmers by Blair's Implement Company, in Toulon (phone 2511).

- Bradford's St. John's basketball team won the grade school heavy-weight tournament, defeating the Bradford Public School, 35-34.

- Louie Dagit Chevrolet Car Dealership in Wyoming advertised the Corvair for sale.

- The Wyoming Packing Company had custom slaughtering of cattle at their facility on the west edge of town.

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**Amber Waves**  
 by Dave T. Phipps  
 MOM, I HAD A ROUGH NIGHT AND DIDN'T GET ENOUGH SLEEP.  
 I THINK IT WOULD BE BEST FOR ME TO STAY HOME TODAY TO RELAX AND REGROUP.  
 YOU'LL FEEL BETTER IF YOU BRUSH YOUR TEETH, EAT SOMETHING HEALTHY AND GO TO SCHOOL.  
 THAT'S CRAZY. THOSE ARE 3 THINGS I ACTIVELY TRY TO AVOID.

**The Spats**  
 by Jeff Pickering  
 I ONCE RACED A TOMATO.  
 DID YOU WIN?  
 NO, I COULD NEVER KETCHUP.

**Just Like Cats & Dogs**  
 by Dave T. Phipps  
 THE NERVE-WRACKING THING ABOUT LEFTOVERS IS SOME OF THIS STUFF I DON'T REMEMBER EATING THE FIRST TIME.  
**GRIN & BRAD IT.**  
 "The Donald Trump-Rosie O'Donnell fight was better than this!"

**Weekly SUDOKU**  

9	6		4	2	5			
7		8	3	2	6	1		4
	4			1			7	
6	5	4					1	7
2				8				5
	7	4			5	3		2
		6				7	3	1
8			6					
			1			8	4	6

 Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.  
**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦  
 ♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!  
 © 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

**Trivia test**  
 by King Features  
 1. TELEVISION: What is the name of the spaceship on the TV drama "Firefly"?  
 2. GEOGRAPHY: What is the only tropical rainforest in the United States?  
 3. LITERATURE: What is the title of author Oscar Wilde's only complete novel?  
 4. MOVIES: What is the name of the killer in the movie "Silence of the Lambs"?  
 5. SCIENCE: What are the three branches of science?  
 6. AD SLOGANS: Which fast-food chain's slogan is, "What you crave"?  
 7. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: How many NFL teams are named after animals (including birds)?  
 8. U.S. STATES: In which state is the U.S. Naval Academy located?  
 9. ASTRONOMY: How many constellations are visible from Earth?  
 10. ART: What is the Japanese art of arranging flowers called?  
 Answers  
 1. Serenity.  
 2. El Yunque National Forest, Puerto Rico.  
 3. "The Picture of Dorian Gray."  
 4. Buffalo Bill.  
 5. Natural Sciences, Social Sciences and Formal Sciences.  
 6. White Castle.  
 7. 14 (Atlanta Falcons, Arizona Cardinals, Baltimore Ravens, Carolina Panthers, Chicago Bears, Cincinnati Bengals, Denver Broncos, Detroit Lions, Indianapolis Colts, Jacksonville Jaguars, Los Angeles Rams, Miami Dolphins, Philadelphia Eagles and Seattle Seahawks).  
 8. Maryland.  
 9. 88.  
 10. Ikebana.  
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**CryptoQuote**  
 AXVLSAAXR  
 is LONGFELLOW  
 One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each week the code letters are different.  
 WG WF GJM UESDGWIS IU  
 PNG GI NMSMV IEN  
 RMNDMRGWIS. VJPG VM PNM  
 UPKWZWPV VWGJ VM DMPFM  
 GI FMM. - PSPWF SWS  
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**TOP 10 MOVIES**  
 1. Flight Risk (R)  
 2. Mufasa: The Lion King (PG)  
 3. One of Them Days (R)  
 4. Sonic the Hedgehog 3 (PG)  
 5. Moana 2 (PG)  
 6. Presence (R)  
 7. Wolf Man (R)  
 8. A Complete Unknown (R)  
 9. Den of Thieves: Pantera (R)  
 10. The Brutalist (R)  
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# SPORTS: Princeville boys' win streak ends at 14

*Continued from Page 8*

Thursday against Midwest Central and then travels to face Princeville today, Feb. 7.

After that, Stark County plays in the Lincoln Trail Conference Tournament held at Kewanee Wethersfield.

• **Galva girls** – The Lady Wildcats (4-19) lost on Monday vs. Knoxville (68-32) and on Jan. 29 at Bureau Valley (47-37).

Galva was to face Kewanee Wethersfield on Thursday and then awaits pairings for the LTC tournament.

• **Princeville boys** – The Princeville boys basketball team ended one streak and started another less enjoyable one.

After they won 14 games in a row, the Princes lost four games in succession. The losing streak began Jan. 28 with a 52-50 defeat at Abingdon-Avon. On Jan. 31, Princeville lost 62-51 at home to Bureau Valley. The following day, host Chillicothe IVC beat the Princes 56-53.

The three defeats doubled the loss total this season for Princeville, which had won 18 games.

Princeville then lost at Annawan, 56-43.

Princeville led IVC 40-36 after three quarters. The Princes had a chance to tie it with about 5 seconds left in the game but turned over the ball before they could get a shot.

“They turned the pressure up in the fourth quarter and also hit some crucial shots,” Princeville Coach Tait Sennett said about the Grey Ghosts. “Big learning experience for us.”

Tucker Sennett scored 23 to lead the visitors. Teammates Logan Olshawsky and Brady Day had 14 and 11 points, respectively.

Against Bureau Valley, Princeville trailed 30-27 at halftime. Jake Williams had a team-high 14 points. Olshawsky and Tucker Sennett evenly split 22. The younger Sennett split more than that – he chipped out his two front teeth while diving for a loose ball. He didn't miss a play, according to his father.

“Tucker just handed me his teeth, smiled at his opponent and hit a 3,” Tait Sennett stated.

Against A-Town, Tucker Sennett missed a 3-point attempt at the buzzer. Again, the Princes trailed at halftime but got back into it behind 10 fourth-quarter points from the younger Sennett and seven from Williams. They finished with 25 and 13 points, respectively.

“They were definitely more physical than we were,” Tait Sennett stated about A-Town. “We did not match their energy and effort early. We battled back, but they hit big shot after big shot while we turned it over too much.”

Sprained ankles are affecting the usual Princeville rotation, according to Coach Sennett.

Junior forward Collin Lowery sprained one of his ankles hours before the Bureau Valley game. Junior guard Brady Day did the same Jan. 24. Williams, a senior guard, is getting back to full strength after his sprain during the Princeville Holiday Tournament.

Princeville has two home games this weekend – Friday (Feb. 7) against Kewanee Wethersfield and Saturday against Peoria Christian.

• **Princeville girls** – The Lady Princes (14-12) lost to Kewanee Wethersfield on Monday, 75-37. Paisley Schock scored 14 points and Sahara Streitmatter scored 13.

Princeville topped Annawan on Jan. 29, 55-41. Streimatter and Reagan Calder scored 15 points apiece to lead Princeville, Paisley Schock added 13 and Addison Buckley scored eight.

Princeville plays in the Lincoln Trail Conference tournament starting Saturday at Kewanee Wethersfield.

• **R-W girls** – The Lady Cougars (6-18) fell to Monmouth United 48-22 on Monday despite what Coach Jeff Hannam called “one of our best defensive performances of the year.”

R-W also dropped a Feb. 1 game at North Fulton, 44-40. Addysen Link scored 13 points and Ella Erlacher added 11. R-W lost Jan. 30 at Midwest Central (52-46) and Jan. 29 at home to West Central (57-49).

R-W competes in the LTC tournament starting Saturday.

## Rural education programs getting help

By PHYLLIS COULTER

FarmWeek

The long-held idea that a four-year university education was best for everyone is now recognized as flawed by many education advocates. Today, rural schools are bringing back displaced programs, but it will take time and resources.

“Career and Technical programs, once called vocational programs, were a significant part of the fabric of rural schools across Illinois and the nation. Several decades ago, a huge pendulum swing took place across the country that all but wiped out this valuable CTE programming,” said Patrick Twomey, superintendent of Macomb School District 185, and a longtime rural school advocate.

“The push was that every child needs a four-year college education and in the process of addressing that belief, vocational/CTE courses were eliminated one by one. As they say, hindsight is 20-20, and looking back, we all know that was a monumental mistake,” Twomey said.

However, rural schools struggle to gather resources to bring CTE programming back. “They lack the financial resources as well as the human capital necessary to tackle this issue and yet we all agree it is paramount that we find a way,” said Twomey, who is on the executive board of the Association of Illinois Rural and Small Schools, one of the organizations leading the comeback.

John Glasgow, AIRSS program director, is spearheading the Rural Illinois Career and Technical Education Project, a joint effort between the Illinois State Board of Education and AIRSS, founded in 2023, to revive and advance career and tech education for Illinois students.

High school tech classes were once viewed as something for “kids who have nothing better to do.” Attitudes are changing. “College is only one route to success today,” Glasgow said, noting that college grads often earn less today than those in “the trades.”

He and the team spent the first year

of the Rural Illinois CTE mostly on research. Their study quickly revealed a priority: the need for direct and specific support for rural CTE programs. Glasgow and his colleagues created a web-based portal to share resources including webinars, newsletters and materials.

Now, the site, [airssedu.org/cte](http://airssedu.org/cte) is live and provides centralized information from a respected source for rural districts, Glasgow said.

Among other things, the Illinois Rural CTE Project is looking for ways to improve options for regional career and tech schools, which have long been underfunded.

In 2024, the IL Rural CTE Project team identified the highest-need rural school districts.

The next step is to create pilot projects.

*This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.*

## CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR SALE

• **TONER:** Unused 410A box of four (B,Y,C,M) high-yield toner cartridges compatible with Color Pro MFP series: M477fnw/fdw/fdn, M377dw, and Color Pro Series:M452nw/dn/dw, M477, M452 & 477fnw. \$50 or BO. Call (309) 442-1001 and leave a message.

• **WHEAT, STRAW ROUND BALES:** From 2024 harvest, \$45 each. (309) 224-2565.

• **GRASS HAY:** Round bales, approx. 2,000 lbs., 2024 harvest, first cutting. \$50 each. (309) 224-2565.

• **LAWN MOWER:** Simplicity Regent lawn tractor, 19.5 hp, 38-inch deck, newer battery, runs and starts good, cuts nice. \$600.

(309) 231-6040.

• **2003 Dodge Dakota SXT,** 4-wheel drive, great shape, lots of new parts, good tires, white in color, \$4,500. Call 309-883-0187.

### FOR RENT

• **TOULON:** Upstairs 2 bedroom apartment for rent in Toulon, 105 E. Main. Call (309) 678-1831.

• **LAURA:** Modular home on 1 acre in rural Laura. This 860 sq. ft. home has 2br with full size laundry, stove, fridge and central air. Fiber optic available. \$800 per month plus \$800 deposit. References required. (309) 678-7400.

### SERVICES

• **SALVAGE:** Buying junk autos,

farm equipment, grain bins, and also doing total farm clean up. Call Doug Lofgren at Spoon River Salvage (309) 299-8531.

• **MORE HEAT. LESS WOOD:** Classic Edge Titanium HDX EPA certified OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. 26% Tax Credit. Prices start as low as \$9,525! Call today (309) 565-4300.

• **REMODELING & REPAIR:** Most types of quality home remodeling and repairs including doors, thermopane vinyl replacement windows, interior painting and electrical, by Denny Miller.

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### WANTED

• **TRUCK DRIVER:** Must have current CDL. Full time or Part time, end dump experience preferred. Home at night. Must be able to pass IDOT Physical and Drug and Alcohol testing program. Please contact Keith at (309) 208-6258 or (309) 249-3361.

## GARAGE SALE

Garage/Moving Sale: Saturday, Feb. 8, 8 a.m. to Noon. Furniture, kitchenware and tools. 2000 Olaf Krans Ave., Galva. (217) 249-2586.

To help some collectors downsize a public auction will be held at 101 West Main Street Toulon. The old News Room Bistro on the corner across from the bank.

### Coin and Currency Auction

Sunday, February 16 2025 at 12:00 noon

The auction will have 490 lots of coins and currency including: 90% Silver, Buffalo Nickels, Wheat Pennies, Wartime Nickels, Steel Pennies, Indian Head Cents, Proof Sets, Mint Sets, V Nickels, Mercury Dimes, Barber Dimes, Roosevelt Dimes, Silver Quarters, Morgan Dollar, Peace Dollars, Walking Liberty Halves, Walking Liberty Quarters, Ike Dollars, Trade Dollars, Seated Dimes, Seated Quarters, Kennedy Halves, Franklin Halves, 40% coins, Honolulu \$1 note, uncut \$2 notes, uncut \$1 notes, Silver Certificates, \$100 German, \$20 German, Confederate \$20 note, Grover Cleveland \$20 note, half dimes, large 2 cent pcs, Carson City silver dollars, many more coins.

This is a nice collection of coins and currency. We will offer some of these lots online for absentee bidding so make sure you check [auctionzip.com](http://auctionzip.com) or my facebook page to see what lots are being offered and where to go bid. We accept cash, check or credit card with a 3% convenience fee. There will be a lunch stand and restrooms available.



### ORWIG AUCTION & APPRAISAL

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## NOTICE

### WEST JERSEY TOWNSHIP ROADS LOAD LIMIT POSTING

West Jersey Township in accordance with Illinois Vehicle Code 625 ILCS 5/15-316 will impose weight limitations on West Jersey Township roads effective 90 days (Feb. 10, 2025 thru May 10, 2025) due to the deterioration caused

by the spring freezing and thawing cycle. Therefore, no vehicle shall be operated upon West Jersey Township Roads having a gross vehicle weight greater than 5 ton (10,000 pounds) upon the posting of road weight limit signs on West Jersey Township Roads.

Any questions contact West Jersey Township Road Commissioner Paul Webster at  
**309-995-3357**

(Township Building, please leave a message).

For further load limitations visit the county website  
<http://starkco.illinois.gov/highway/>

## Time to take keepsakes off of graves & REQUEST for MOWING BIDS

Mowing bids for Bishop Hill Cemetery, Municipal lot, baseball field, and (Platt Cemetery on Rte. 82). Bids should be for all properties in one bid for the entire 2025 season and include proof of insurance. Bids will include trimming & removal of small debris. Mowing should be done once a week or more if needed. Cemetery stones should be trimmed at least every other mowing. Send bids to:

**Village of Bishop Hill, Box 117,  
Bishop Hill IL, 61419.**

Deadline is the March 5th Village meeting. Bidders may also bring bids to that meeting at the Municipal Bldg. in Bishop Hill at 6 p.m. The Village reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.

Any questions, call the Village Clerk at:  
**(309)-927-3583**

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# Prairie News Sports



## Louck shines in Galva boys win

By NICK VLAHOS and JEFF LAMPE

For The Prairie News

MJ Louck had a game to remember last week for the Galva boys basketball team.

Louck had 34 points, 11 rebounds, seven assists and two blocked shots Jan. 31 to lead the Wildcats past ROWVA-Williamsfield 88-54 in a Lincoln Trail Conference game at Oneida.

According to Galva Coach Jake McClintic, Louck was 6-for-7 from the field on 2-point attempts, 5-for-8 on 3-point attempts and 7-for-9 on free throws.

Other Galva players weren't too shabby, either. Blake Stahl was scoreless in the first quarter but finished with 22 points. JP Sloan had 13 points, all in the first three periods.

Reid Harris scored 11 despite no points in the second and fourth quarters.

Galva led 48-24 at half-time. Dawson Traphagan had 22 points to lead R-W.

On Tuesday night, Bureau Valley defeated

Galva 59-34. The loss made Galva 18-6 overall and 6-3 in the LTC.

Galva is to play tonight (Feb. 7) at Knoxville. Stark County boys – Connor Daum had 21 points Tuesday night for Stark County, which lost an LTC game at Monmouth United, 65-57. The teams were tied 24-24 at intermission, but Ian Leffler had 16 third-period points to help United take a 46-36 lead. He finished with 24 points.

Justin Warner had 11 points for Stark County (6-16, 3-6). Ross Saner scored 10, including eight in the fourth quarter. Annawan defeated Stark County 64-50 on Jan. 31 despite 23 points from Daum. The Rebels were to play two home games this week – Wednesday night against Elmwood and tonight against Abingdon-Avon.

• **SC girls** – The Lady Rebels (11-15) had to face a gauntlet of top Lincoln Trail Conference teams at less than full strength last week.

Already without junior

Haylie Moodie, who was lost to a knee injury, Stark County also battled sickness that went through the team, according to Coach Bob Bohm.

“Been a long January,” Bohm said. “Hoping to get back on track during the (LTC) tournament heading for regionals.”

On Monday, Stark County lost 56-29 to Abingdon-Avon (24-4), the top-ranked team in Class 1A according to the latest Associated Press poll. The Lady Rebels trailed 35-13 at halftime at Abingdon.

Coley Johnston led Stark County with 12 points against A-Town and Hallie Newton added 10.


On Jan. 29, visiting Monmouth United topped Stark County, 57-22. The Lady Rebels managed two points in the final two quarters and saw United's Hailey Redding tally 28 for the state's 10th-ranked Class 1A girls team.

Johnston led Stark County in the loss with 13 points.

Stark County was home *Continued on Page 7*












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<b>2019 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 RST 4x4 4dr Crew Cab 6.6 ft. SB</b> Price \$37,500 Mileage 39,555 	<b>2021 Chevrolet Equinox Premier 4x4 4dr SUV</b> Price \$26,000 Mileage 32,389 	<b>2023 Chevrolet TrailBlazer LT 4x4 LT 4dr SUV</b> Price \$19,800 Mileage 77,828 	<b>2003 Chevrolet Silverado 3500 4X2 2dr Regular Cab</b> Price \$5,500 Mileage 92,404 	<b>2022 Chrysler Pacifica Touring L 4dr Mini-Van</b> Price \$22,200 Mileage 72,538 	<b>2010 Chrysler Town and Country Touring 4dr Mini-Van</b> Price \$5,500 Mileage 152,120 
<b>2019 Dodge Durango R/T AWD 4dr SUV</b> Price \$22,000 Mileage 125,475 	<b>2022 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 4dr SuperCrew 6.5 ft. SB</b> Price \$38,000 Mileage 32,281 	<b>2017 Ford Explorer Limited AWD 4dr SUV</b> Price \$20,600 Mileage 74,676 	<b>2022 Ford Edge Titanium AWD 4dr Crossover</b> Price \$25,000 Mileage 53,800 	<b>2021 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 4dr SuperCrew 5.5 ft. SB</b> Price \$21,500 Mileage 116,536 	<b>2017 Ford F-150 Lariat 4x4 4dr SuperCrew 5.5 ft. SB</b> Price \$21,500 Mileage 116,536 
<b>2018 Ford F-150 XLT 4x4 4dr SuperCab 6.5 ft. SB</b> Price \$21,500 Mileage 103,650 	<b>2018 Ford Escape SEL AWD 4dr SUV</b> Price \$14,000 Mileage 100,909 	<b>1990 Freightliner CONVENTIONAL FLD</b> Price \$25,000 Mileage Email For Mileage 	<b>2020 GMC Terrain SLT 4x4 4dr SUV</b> Price \$18,500 Mileage 66,382 	<b>2020 GMC Sierra 1500 SLT 4x4 4dr Crew Cab 5.8 ft. SB</b> Price \$40,500 Mileage 51,725 	<b>2010 Harley-Davidson Street Glide</b> Price \$11,000 Mileage 28,429 
<b>2022 Hyundai Sonata SE 4dr Sedan</b> Price \$18,000 Mileage 46,327 	<b>2019 Hyundai Santa Fe Ultimate 2.0T AWD Ultimate 4dr Crossover</b> Price \$22,000 Mileage 92,477 	<b>2018 Hyundai Santa Fe Sport 2.4L AWD 4dr SUV</b> Price \$15,000 Mileage 118,480 	<b>2018 Jeep Grand Cherokee Limited 4x4 4dr SUV</b> Price \$15,000 Mileage 133,059 	<b>2013 Nissan Sentra SV 4dr Sedan</b> Price \$7,500 Mileage 96,153 	<b>2022 RAM 2500 Big Horn 4x4 4dr Crew Cab 6.3 ft. SB Pickup</b> Price \$38,000 Mileage 43,124 